

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 0354

E.O. 11652:\$

TAGS: ECIN, PFOR, OVIP (YOUNG, ANDREW) TZ
SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S VISIT TO AFRICA: BRIEFING PAPER:
NYERERE'S ECONOMIC PHILOSOPHY

1. IN MEETINGS WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG, PRESIDENT NYERERE WILL
PROBABLY WISH CONCENTRATE ON SOUTHERN AFRICA POLITICAL ISSUES.
WHILE WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE HIS RAISING BILATERAL ECONOMIC
MATTERS, NYERERE MAY OFFER HIS VIEWS ON NEW INTERNATIONAL
ECONOMIC ORDER. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY'S UNDERSTANDING OF
NYERERE'S ECONOMIC PHILOSOPHY.

2. NYERERE'S ECONOMIC FRAMEWORK -- AS LEADER OF A VERY POOR
NATION AND AS A SOCIAL PHILOSOPHER, NYERERE HAS SPOKEN OFTEN
ON THE PLIGHT OF POOR PEOPLES. IN HIS VIEW, THE ROOT CAUSE IS
ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION BOTH INTERNATIONALLY AND WITHIN COUNTRIES.
HE REGARDS CAPITALISM AND THE PRESENT WORLD ECONOMIC SYSTEM
AS DANGEROUS CONCENTRATION OF POWER IN THE HANDS OF FEW,
A SITUATION WHICH CAN ONLY LEAD TO INJUSTICE AND CONFRONTATION.
NYERERE PROPOSES A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT INTERRELATIONSHIP
AND ECONOMIC ORDER FOUNDED ON EGALITARIANISM AND SOCIAL
JUSTICE AND DEDICATED TO EDISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH AND
POWER. ECONOMIC GROWTH AND EFFICIENCY, WHILE NECESSARY,
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ARE VIEWED AS SECONDARY TO SOCIAL AND IDEOLOGICAL GOALS.

3. NYERERE'S DOMESTIC POLICIES -- THE "ARUSHA DECLARATION"
OF FEBRUARY 5, 1967 IS NYERERE'S BLUEPRINT FOR AN ALL -
ENCOMPASSING CONVERSION OF SELF-RELIANCE AND COMMUNALISM. FOR
EXAMPLE, DURING THE PAST 10 YEARS NYERERE HAS:

-- MOVED ALMOST ALL RURAL TANZANIANS (WHO CONSTITUTE 90 PERCENT OF POPULATION) INTO AGRICULTURAL VILLAGES WHICH ARE TO DEVELOP INTO UJAMAA (COMMUNAL) SOCIETIES.

-- BROUGHT UNDER STATE CONTROL VIRTUALLY ALL ASPECTS OF ECONOMIC, FINANCIAL, AND COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES.

-- REMOVED MOST FORMS OF MATERIAL INCENTIVES GEARED TOWARD INDIVIDUAL AS OPPOSED TO COLLECTIVE BENEFITS.

4. NYERERE'S INTERNATIONAL OUTLOOK: NYERECU VIEWS THE CURRENT WORLD ECONOMIC SYSTEM AS DESIGNED TO PRESERVE THE CAPITALIST IDEALS OF THE WEST AND TO LEAVE COUNTRIES LIKE TANZANIA WITHOUT INFLUENCE ON THE ECONOMIC FORCES AFFECTING THEM. HE TENDS TO VIEW THE WORLD'S WEALTH AS LIMITED AND HE FOCUSES ON REDISTRIBUTION OF IT ALONG SOCIALIST, EGALITARIAN LINES. THEREFORE, HE BELIEVES THAT:

-- TO BE SELF-RELIANT, TANZANIAN SHOULD DISENGAGE ITS ECONOMY FROM THE WEST.

-- DEVELOPING COUNTRIES MUST WORK TOGETHER AS "TRADE UNION OF THE POOR", TO CREATE NEW AND JUST ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIPS.

-- TANZANIAN HAS A "RIGHT" TO ASSISTANCE AS MATTER OF JUSTICE AND IN COMPENSATION FOR CONTINUING EXPLOITATION.

-- SUCH AID SHOULD HAVE NO POLITICAL STRINGS AND BE AN AUTOMATIC TRANSFER OF RESOURCES TO NARROW GAP BETWEEN RICH

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AND POOR.

-- TANZANIAN SHOULD NOT RELY ON FOREIGN PRIVATE INVESTMENT TO MEET HER CAPITAL AND TECHNOLOGY NEEDS.

-- WORLD TRADE AND FINANCIAL SYSTEMS SHOULD BE RESTRUCTURED TO FAVOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

-- NATIONALIZATION OF PRIVATE BUSINESS IS NECESSARY TO INSURE ECONOMY IS RESPONSIVE TO NEEDS OF CITIZENS.

-- OPEC CARTEL IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES CAN STRENGTHEN ATTEMPTS TO ALTER CURRENT WORLD ECONOMIC IMBALANCES.

-- CHINA IS GOOD MODEL FOR DEVELOPMENT BECAUSE ITS PEOPLE WORK TOGETHER FOR COMMON BENEFIT. FOR SIMILAR REASONS, N. KOREAN AND CUBAN SYSTEMS HAVE SOME APPEAL. SOVIET UNION, ON OTHER HAND, LESS ATTRACTIVE BECAUSE IT IS POWERFUL AND RICH.

5. WHILE NYERERE'S PHILOSOPHY IS BASICALLY "RADICAL", HE TEMPERS
ITS IMPLEMENTATION WITH HUMANISM AND VARYING DEGREES
OF PRAGMATISM. HE WILLING MAKE TACTICAL RETREATS AND
MODIFY SOMEWHAT DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL POSITION IN
FACE OF ECONOMIC REALITIES.
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